

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP03/06958

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int.Cl⁷ A61B18/18

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl⁷ A61B17/00-19/12, A61N5/00-5/10, F16B7/00-7/22, F16B21/00

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1922-1996 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2003
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2003 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2003

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2001/0044575 A1 (Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.), 22 November, 2001 (22.11.01), Par. Nos. [0090] to [0095], [0136] to [0148]; Figs. 2B, 14 to 17 & JP 11-267133 A	1-11
Y	EP 202362 A2 (Vileda GmbH.), 26 November, 1986 (26.11.86), Full text; all drawings & US 4697949 A & JP 61-266811 A	1-11
Y	JP 3-39772 B2 (Shiro HASEGAWA), 14 June, 1991 (14.06.91), Page 1, left column, lines 25 to 28; page 1, right column, lines 26 to 28 (Family: none)	4-6, 9-11

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
02 September, 2003 (02.09.03)

Date of mailing of the international search report
16 September, 2003 (16.09.03)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.